



If you have questions/comments about this program at Pope, e-mail thatguy@pope.af.mil

Up Next

Phone change

Starting Wednesday base personnel will have to dial seven digit phone numbers for any Pope number. Calling a base number is no longer four plus the extension, it will be 394 and the extension. Those who dial four and the extension will receive a recording instructing them to dial all seven digits. For more information contact 43rd Communications Squadron.

Digital Signing

In the next two weeks, AMC will be updating the default on everyone's Outlook, so each email sent out will be digitally signed. The intent is so everyone will be able to positively identify the sender for all emails received.

After this default is implemented, if the email isn't digitally signed, suspect its authenticity.

For more information, contact 43rd Communications Squadron.

Women's Basketball

The Fort Bragg Sports and Fitness Women's Basketball program will tip off on Tuesday and run through March 5.

The program will be Tuesday and Thursday evenings at various physical fitness centers.

All participants must be registered by Monday at noon. Online registration is available at www.fortbraggmwr.com or call 396-1218 for more information.

High School Choice Fair

Learn about high school options in Cumberland County schools, Jan. 20 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the Albritton Junior High School gymnasium. For more information, call 432-1008.

DUI tracker

DUI tracking is current as of Tuesday

Days since last DUI	14
2009	0
DUIs for 2008	20



AADD Saves

This week 0

This year 0

For a free, anonymous ride home midnight to 6 a.m. Friday to Sunday, call Airmen Against Drunk Driving at 394-AADD.

CAROLINA FLYER

Vol. 13, No. 1

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Thursday, Jan. 1, 2009

14th ASOS members receive Bronze Star



(Left to right) Staff Sgts. Joshua Craig, Aaron Kalynko and Jason Romashko, 14th Air Support Operations Squadron, listen to their commander's closing remarks after each receives his Bronze Star medal during the presentation ceremony in their briefing room Dec. 15.

Story and Photo by
Airman 1st Class
Mindy Bloem

Staff writer

The bronze star may be only 1.5 inches in circumscribing diameter; however, its significance far surpasses its mere measurements.

Staff Sgts. Jason Romashko, Aaron Kalynko and Joshua Craig, all 14th Air Support Operations Squadron, were awarded the Bronze Star Dec. 15 during a presentation ceremony held in the squadron's briefing room.

At the opening of the ceremony, Col. Pat Pihana, 18th Air Support Operations Group Commander, talked about how the world is a dangerous place and praised those who make the necessary sacrifices to defend this country's freedoms.

Sergeant Romashko received the Bronze Star for exceptionally meritorious achievement while serving as an Enlisted Battalion Air Liaison officer for a Joint Task Force in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom from Jan. 27, 2007 to Sept. 5, 2007.

"I am grateful," he said. "It's a weird feeling when you walk into your first sergeant's office and he tells you that you will be receiving the medal. You don't really think you deserve it but you feel honored at the same time."

Sergeant Romashko's technical and tactical expertise, commitment to mission accomplishment

and leadership of the Tactical Air Control Element allowed him to effectively support the Task Force mission during sustained combat operations. His contributions ensured the successful execution of several air assault operations of national significance.

Sergeant Craig received the Bronze Star for exceptionally meritorious achievement while serving as a Terminal Attack Controller for a Joint Task Force in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom from Nov. 21, 2006 to Nov. 11, 2007.

"This medal represents all the time and hard work your teams put forth in Iraq," he said. "I was just fortunate enough to get rewarded for the work my team and I put in."

Sergeant Craig's technical and tactical expertise, commitment to mission accomplishment, and leadership of the Tactical Air Control Element allowed him to effectively support the Task Force mission during sustained combat operations. His contributions ensured the successful execution of several air assault operations of national significance.

Sergeant Craig said an additional honor for him was that the nomination came from the Army members he worked with.

"It lets you know you have earned their respect," he said.

Sergeant Kalynko received the Bronze Star for distinguishing himself by meritorious achievement as a Joint Terminal Attack

Controller, 25th Expeditionary Air Support Operations Squadron, 18th Expeditionary Air Support Operations Group, while engaged in ground combat against an enemy of the United States at Forward Operating Base Caldwell, Iraq from Jan. 19, 2007 to Oct. 28, 2007.

"It's an honor," Sergeant Kalynko said. "Guys have died for this award. I don't take it lightly."

While attached to the 5th Squadron, 73rd Cavalry regiment, in support of Operation Woodshed, Sergeant Kalynko and his team came under attack by effective enemy small arms fire. Sergeant Kalynko quickly cleared the airspace of unmanned aerial vehicles and helicopters and directed calls for strafing attacks by two F-16s, killing two enemy fighters and ending the engagement.

Sergeant Kalynko, like Sergeant Craig, feels additional pride at having earned the respect of his Army associates.

"We feel especially proud to have gotten nominated by our Army counterparts, he said. "It makes the medal mean even more to me."

In another major operation, Sergeant Kalynko responded to an ambushed military transition team. He expertly integrated close air support with AH-64s and unmanned aerial vehicles and was able to successfully engage and destroy 16 enemy combatants, allowing

the team to regain the initiative and capture the remaining enemy force. He also used tactical expertise to integrate ground patrol fires with air resulting in 10 successful strikes on enemy positions employing eight GBU-12 laser-guided bombs, 10 GBU-38 and three GBU-31 GPS-guided bombs, two SGM-65 Maverick missiles and eight strafe attacks. Battle damage assessments showed 26 enemy personnel killed and the destruction of five vehicles, one light anti-aircraft artillery piece, one house-borne improvised explosive device, three enemy safe houses and one weapons cache.

The three recipients were also quick to credit outside contributions as additional factors for their receiving the prestigious medal.

"What we do here in training greatly reflects what we do downrange," Sergeant Romashko said. The time and effort that is put in to ensure you are mission capable really helps when you're downrange."

"You fight like you train," Sergeant Craig said. "If I am prepared by my training then when it is time to fight, it is instinctual."

"It just kicks in," Sergeant Kalynko agreed. "You may be frightened for a split second but almost immediately that training kicks in and you realize you're good."

They also all agreed that at the heart of the award is the team

mentality.

"It is definitely not an achievement you get by yourself," Sergeant Kalynko said.

"It's all about the team effort," Sergeant Romashko added.

"I know I couldn't have done it without my team," Sergeant Craig said.

All of these men's citations noted that due to their accomplishments, they reflected great credit on not only themselves but the U.S. Air Force as well.

"I think it (the medal) speaks volumes about these TACPs and what they do for a living," Lt. Col. Keith Bryza, 14th ASOS Commander, said. "Their devotion to this country and to this mission is unmatched. But I know for a fact that they do what they do not for medals and recognition but for love of country and a loyalty to their brothers in arms."

"To say that I am proud of these men would be a gross understatement," he added. "A better description would be to say that it is an honor to be their commander — an honor I do not take for granted and one that I realize every day."

Air Force Combat Action Medal recipients:

Sergeant Craig
Staff Sgt. Brett Brosnahan
Senior Airman Zachary Jacobs
Senior Airman Michael Lombard
Senior Airman Jack Bass
Airman 1st Class Jarred Fischer

Unofficial Travel Outside the U.S. - Are you ready?

Story by
Michael Sydnor

Installation Antiterrorism Advisor

The Global War on Terrorism has transformed the way we prepare and execute the Air Force mission. It has also changed the way you, as a military member, should prepare for any travel, official or unofficial, outside the continental United States, Alaska, Hawaii, or United States territories. Your deployments, TDYs, and PCS moves during official travel are well regimented and encompass all the requirements necessary to travel outside the United States, but what about your personal (or unofficial) travel plans? Who is responsible for ensuring you've fulfilled the necessary requirements to travel outside the United States?

The answer is you, the military member, are responsible for complying with several requirements. The recent attacks in Mumbai have refocused our attention on making sure we are prepared when traveling abroad for unofficial travel.

DoD Instruction 2000.16 and AFI 36-3003, Military Leave Program, paragraph 4.8.4., instructs members to comply with foreign government procedures as required by the Department of Defense Foreign Clearance Guide, to include any DoD Travel Security Advisory. The FCG may be accessed through a link on the Pope Antiterrorism Homepage. The Department of State

Travel Guide is also available from the Pope antiterrorism webpage and must be viewed for additional advisories. In some cases, these guides will link between each other for specific requirements, and they will also link to a Combatant Command such as Pacific Command, European Command, etc., when that COCOM has additional requirements for personal unofficial travel into their area of responsibility. In addition to complying with the FCG requirements, military members must have their AT Level 1 awareness training up to date and it's highly recommended to share that awareness information with any family members traveling with you.

Any military members con-

templating unofficial travel outside of the United States should consult their unit Antiterrorism Representative, preferably at least 60 days prior to any overseas travel. Many countries require a Personnel Clearance Request that is sent to the COCOM in message format and is required 30 days prior to the person entering the country. Some locations may require a personal antiterrorism travel plan coordinated through the first colonel in the person's chain of command before being sent to the COCOM. Anyone desiring to travel to an area of the globe considered to be in Force Protection Condition Charlie may have to submit their personal travel plan to the first general officer in the chain of com-

mand...for the 43rd Airlift Wing that means submitting and coordinating the leave travel request with the 18th Air Force Commander before it is sent forward to the COCOM.

On Pope, if you select overseas on LeaveWeb, you will have to acknowledge your responsibilities in regards to mandatory requirements for OCONUS travel before you can complete your leave request. Your Unit AT Representative can help complete all actions.

The world has changed, and before traveling outside the friendly borders of the United States, it's imperative you've fulfilled your administrative responsibilities to enter other countries.

Resolve to Make a Positive Impact

By Col. John McDonald
43rd Airlift Wing Commander

Happy New Year Team Pope and Thank You for the outstanding work you put in throughout 2008! Because of your motivation and tremendous mission accomplishments last year, we are set for success in 2009!

The overarching theme of 2008 was Pope's Excellence when it came to testing our readiness to answer our nation's call in the Global War on Terrorism. With four inspections and four excellent ratings earned, we demonstrated our ability to not only provide our warfighting partners with the daily support they need to deploy, but also our own ability to deploy on a moment's notice anywhere in the world.

Whether you realize it or not, that's part of being a good Wingman.

That brings me to my overarching theme for 2009, the fact that your Individual Actions Matter!

Consider this an extension of the "Wingman Culture." We all know what it means, in theory, to be a good Wingman. You look out for your fellow Airmen by promoting a culture of responsible choices, whether it is on or off duty, on or off base, in uniform or out of

uniform. And by internalizing the concept and walking the walk, by "living the dream" you will experience a transformation of sorts. Hopefully, you all had the opportunity to discuss pertinent issues during your squadron Wingman Days last month, but I need you to continue the discussions. It's not a one-day event, it has to become the fiber of the thread woven through us all. I may communicate differently than you, so I'm asking you, challenging you, to take what I'm promoting as our focus for the coming year and really think about it, and how you can apply it individually, and how it should be applied across the Wing.

That's what I AM is all about – a challenge. It's a challenge to look deeper at responsibility and accountability – for yourself and for those you work with. Start at the most basic of ideas, because if we all do this we'll all make a positive impact possibly affecting the entirety of Team Pope. Ask yourself some questions: Are you holding yourself to the same standards you expect your supervisors to be held to, or you hold your people to as a supervisor? Are you making a positive difference in the day-to-day lives of those you interact with regularly? If you re-evaluate yourself and ask these questions regularly, you'll see the positive impact

your individual actions make.

I had a chance to visit with a former Pope Wing Commander and our current 18th Air Force Commander, Maj. Gen. Winfield Scott, at the final ORI outbrief at Scott AFB, Ill. Dec. 17. After being told how strongly we performed – especially in the Ability to Survive and Operate area – General Scott and I talked about the future of Pope.

The people at 18th Air Force and Air Mobility Command notice the work we put in here every day, even as we move through our realignment process. They know that Pope sets the standards when it comes to taking care of people and supporting a mission unseen at most other bases in our Air Force. I AM ready to set the bar a little bit higher in 2009, and I know that if we do things the way we've always done them, we're sure to succeed, because that's what we do at Pope, year after year—it's what WE expect! It's what WE do! It's who WE are! WE are Pope, it's different here, and it's different good!

My other challenge for you to start 2009 is to try to put a little "Wow" into everything you do, because people will stand up and take notice. There's no set formula for this, but step back and look at some of the things we do here – be it



PHOTO BY 2ND LT. CHRIS HOYLER

Col. John McDonald, 43rd Airlift Wing Commander, carves turkey to serve to Staff Sgt. Maria Silao-Johnson, 440th Security Forces Squadron, during the Christmas Day meal at the Kitty Hawk Inn. Colonel McDonald, Col. John Gordy, 43rd AW Vice Commander and 43rd AW Command Chief Master Sgt. Doug Ackerman joined other Pope group and squadron leadership in serving dinner from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

mission-related activities like JFEX or fun activities like the 24-hour Endurance Relay. If you really analyze what goes on with those events, I guarantee you'll say "Wow." That is the kind of approach I want you to take when you show up to work every day. It doesn't have to be "knock your socks off Wow" every time, but a simple "Wow, that's neat," or "Wow, that was nice," or my favorite, "Wow, that was fun!" really makes a huge difference. I pledge to you, if we are

doing it, no matter what it is, it will be an event, not an afterthought! So look to get involved and be my Ambassadors of Wow!

Again, thank you for all that you do and remember as a Wingman, Leader and Warrior, it is critical to remember your Individual Actions Matter! Thanks for joining me in our pledge for 2009, I AM responsible, I AM accountable, and I AM going to make a positive difference!

We are going to have a Popetastic Year!

Commander's Helpline

394-HELP (4357)
commanders.helpline1
@pope.af.mil

The Commander's Helpline is your direct link to Col. John McDonald, 43rd Airlift Wing commander.

If you have worked through normal channels and aren't satisfied, Helplines are an opportunity to ask questions, compliment someone or make suggestions. You must include a name and phone number for a response.

Helplines of general interest will be published in the Carolina Flyer, others will be answered by letter or phone call.

Remember, the most efficient way to solve a problem is to talk directly to the responsible office or follow your chain of command.

You can call the Commander's Helpline at 394-4357 or e-mail to commanders.helpline1@pope.af.mil.

Helpful numbers

Emergency (Base Phone/home phone)	911
Cell Phone	394-0911
Law Enforcement Desk	394-2800/2808
Helping Hand Hot line	394-2777
Crime Stop	394-4111
Pope Clinic	394-4258
Pass and Registration	394-2694
Security Forces	394-2800
Legal Office	394-2341
Chapel	394-2677
Military Personnel Flight	394-2276
Pope Club, collocated	497-4031
TRICARE Customer Service	1-877-TRI-CARE
Civil Engineers	394-2821
Inspector General	394-2302
Family Support Center	394-2538
Child Development	
Kitty Hawk Inn	394-4323
Dining Facility	394-4377
Housing Management	394-4867
Bowling Center	394-2691
Fitness Center	394-2671
Finance (Military Pay)	394-4628
AAFES Shoppette	497-8181
Public Affairs	394-4183

BEAT THE PRO RESULTS

The 43rd Airlift Wing Public Affairs office and the 43rd Force Support Squadron hosted this year's "Beat the Pro" program. Each week during the professional football season wing leadership picked winners for five designated games. Their pics were published each Friday before the games were played and Pope Airmen, their families and civilian employees had a chance to match wits with the 'pros' for that week.

This program ran the entire NFL regular season and prizes were awarded weekly for beating the pro. Grand prizes of Pope Club Super Bowl Bingo tickets were awarded to the top three finishers for the best overall season records.

This years top 10 winners were:

James Koch - 46 picks
Levon & Brenda Atterberry - 45 picks

Brandon Johnson & Jessica Kosisky - 44 picks
Col. McDonald & Brian Cerney - 43 picks
Kelley Koch - 42 picks
Brett Johnson - 41 picks
Vicki Johnson & Ryan McDonald - 40 picks
Congratulations to this year's winners and watch this next season for more of "Beat the Pro".

Deployment Holidays

By: Capt. Beverly Mock
Chief, 43rd AW Public Affairs

With the holidays just coming to an end hopefully everyone was able to spend them with loved ones and friends.

Those of you who have been deployed or have had a family member or friend deployed during the holidays knows how hard it can be to be gone for the holidays. This year I was deployed to Afghanistan for eight months and was fortunate enough for my deployment to end just days prior to Thanksgiving.

I felt bad being so excited to leave when my replacement was just getting there and would spend all the holidays away from home but I couldn't help but be excited.

I was the replacement just a couple of years ago, deploying just before Thanksgiving so I know how she felt and it was tough.

Most deployment locations - so I feel confident the one I just left will do the same - try very hard to bring the celebrations to the troops downrange. They put

together huge spreads of food and usually set aside time for fellowship. Although not a replacement for celebrating at home they try hard to provide a close second.

Being in public affairs we get phone calls, especially during the holidays, from well-wishers who want to send care packages and cards to troops who are deployed. We direct them to the USO and organizations like Soldiers Angels who work with volunteers to show those deployed that there are people who do care.

From experience I know these organizations do a good job showing the troops they have support. My husband signed me up online with Soldiers Angels and I received care packages, cards, letters and emails from people across the United States telling me how much they appreciated the men and women serving in the Armed Forces – this meant a lot. I received so many goodies that I shared them with everyone in my work area – we all appreciated the support.

When I was told it was my turn to write a commentary I thought it was

a good time to thank everyone who support not only the Airmen, Soldiers, Sailors and Marines who are deployed but also our families and friends who put up with the operations tempo that keeps us away during important times. Military families are amazing. They show their deployed family member support through care packages, letters and emails and are sometimes forgotten.

We need to make sure they receive the support they need as well. They are also spending the holidays without a loved one and they are maintaining the household assuming all responsibilities so the family still runs smoothly. Our families didn't sign up to serve but that is exactly what they do. Programs like the Patriot Spouse, Family Support Center and Spouse's Club do a good job supporting our family members.

I am thankful of all of you who think of others, it is you who helped me and my family to survive the past eight months apart and now I hope I am able to pay everyone back by showing my support to those who are currently deployed and their families.

Wingman of the Week



PHOTO BY AIRMAN 1ST CLASS MINDY BLOEM

2nd Lt. Ester Kim, 43rd Contracting Squadron, inspects aviation helmet bags to see if they meet the customer's specifications. Lieutenant Kim looks at the different products from various vendors to determine which product best meets the customer's criteria.

2nd Lt. Ester Kim
43rd Contracting Squadron

Job description: Contract Management Officer
Date entered military: May 21, 2008

Reason entered military? I wanted to pay back what the Air Force has given me and take the opportunity to travel and experience as much as I can.

Who has been the most influential person in your career? My mother
Short term goals: Get a good score on my GMAT.

Long term goals: I want to get my master's degree before I make captain.

What do you think is the best thing about Pope, and why? I like the "small town" feel of the base. Its sort of similar to the town I came from.
If you could change one thing about Pope, what would it be, and why? I would change the Base Post Office hours to stay open until 5 p.m., so people have the option to stop by after work.

CAROLINA FLYER

public.pope.amc.af.mil

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Visit the Carolina Flyer Web site at public.pope.amc.af.mil.



U.S. AIR FORCE

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Married couple reunites after five-year separation

Story and photo by
Airman 1st Class
Mindy Bloem
Staff writer

“The course of true love never did run smooth.” These famous words penned by William Shakespeare have held true for many couples over centuries and ring especially true for one particular couple at Pope. Mark and Wanita’s journey of love may not have been especially smooth, but that simple fact has never stopped them from giving up on each other.

Senior Airman Mark Nasirali, 43rd Logistics Readiness Squadron, and his wife Wanita have been married for six years; however, five of those years have been spent apart, separated by a distance of more than 2,000 miles.

Airman Nasirali met his would-be bride in the summer of 2001 while attending college in New York. While never formally meeting each other prior to this time, they had both attended the same high school and, on separate occasions, had taken notice of one another.

It was not until the couple’s mutual friend took an interest in Mrs. Nasirali that things really began to come together.

“Mark’s friend had a crush on me,” Mrs. Nasirali recalled. “He would always try to get me to go out on a date with him, and I would always say no because he wasn’t my type. Then one day he was like, ‘I give up; what is your type?’ I told him I thought his friend Mark was cute but asked him not to tell him. So of course he told him and then introduced us. That’s how we met.”

Both Airman Nasirali and his wife came from similar backgrounds. Both moved here from Guyana as children. She moved here at age 11; he was 12.

Everything seemed to be working in their favor. Each was attending college in New York, and on their days off from school, they were busy thinking of ways to be together.

“It was very difficult at first,” Mrs. Nasirali said. “My parents are very strict with me because I am the only girl. In our culture, you’re not supposed to go out on a date alone. We would have to sneak around a lot. We would schedule our classes to have the same day off. We would spend those days together, but no one would know. That was basically how we got close.”

They got close enough that in December of 2002, wedding bells chimed. Unfortunately, difficult times were ahead of them and in September of 2003, Mrs. Nasirali had to go back to Guyana with her parents after being married less than a year.

“When we arrived in the States in 1993, my parents filed for political asylum so we weren’t illegal,” Mrs. Nasirali said. “But our asylum case ended up getting denied and we were advised that it would be best for us to go back to our country.”

When Airman Nasirali enlisted in the Air Force Feb. 14, 2006, he had then been separated from his wife for more than three years.

“I did speak to the recruiter about my situation, but since it was such a technical situation, there wasn’t a lot he could do,” Airman Nasirali said. “He informed me of the legal channels the Air Force has available and said they would be able to provide me with assistance and guidance to help me out.”

During this time, the Nasiralis did not lose hope. They would talk on the phone every day, racking up nearly \$350 a month in phone bills. Airman Nasirali also tried to visit his wife twice a year which cost

him almost \$1,000 dollars a trip.

The couple credits their faith and the support they were given from family, friends, co-workers and supervisors as instruments in getting them through the hard times of their separation.

Airman Nasirali said the Air Force has been really active in trying to help him with his situation since as early as basic training.

“Everywhere I went in the Air Force, there were people who were always trying to help me out,” he said. “When I got to Pope, my flight immediately started working the situation and making my commander aware. Maj. Vaughn, (43rd Logistics Readiness Squadron Commander), has been a huge help. He contacted outside sources for me, like our honorary commander, Tony Wilder, who knows Congressman Bob Etheridge. Mr. Wilder got us in touch with the congressman, and the congressman’s staff really helped expedite the paperwork to make it all possible.”

Mr. Wilder said he was sorry to hear of their separation and was just happy he was made aware of the situation through the Honorary Commanders’ program. He was able to help get them in contact with Congressman Etheridge’s office whose staff made it all happen.

“The Honorary Commanders’ program is a great program,” Mr. Wilder said. “I have met great people, people who are dedicated to defending our freedoms.

“It’s my responsibility as an Honorary Commander to build good relationships between our community and Pope. I am always sorry for

those who leave their families behind to serve our great country. I am so glad they were reunited.”

Through a whole host of support, Airman and Mrs. Nasirali were finally able to be reunited Nov. 23, just four days before Thanksgiving.

“When I first saw her I thought, ‘pinch me.’ That feeling lasted for about two straight weeks,” Airman Nasirali said. “It is great to go to sleep together and wake up together and just be around each other.”

We are in that honeymoon stage where we just want to be together all the time,” Mrs. Nasirali added.

“We just are thankful to everyone who had their hands in the pot for us – for however they helped out,” Airman Nasirali said. “Whether they prayed for us or wrote a letter on our behalf or advanced me leave time or just used whatever resources were available to them to get us to the next level.

“Everyone I came across was always more than willing to help out.”

“We never got a ‘no’ basically,” Mrs. Nasirali added. “We got a lot of support, and we are so thankful for that.”

Mrs. Nasirali has only 18 credits left to complete before she is able to graduate from college in New York.

When asked how it was going to feel to be separated for a semester while she completes school, they joked: “What’s a couple hundred miles compared to a couple thousand miles.”



Senior Airman Mark Nasirali, 43rd Logistics Readiness Squadron, and wife Wanita, get their picture taken in front of their shop’s Christmas tree Dec. 18. Airman and Mrs. Nasirali have been separated by a distance of more than 2,000 miles for five years. They spent this past Christmas together in the States with Airman Nasirali’s parents.

Deadlines

The deadline for all material, stories and pictures to be considered for publication is noon Friday, the week before publication. Call **394-4185** for more information.

Pope talks

Tech. Sgt. Todd Wivell
Editor

What is your New Year’s Resolution for 2009?



“I resolve to get more organized and be in a position to retire.”

— **Ann Mulvaney**
43rd Comptroller Squadron



“To spend as much time with my family before I go on my one year remote tour.”

— **Tech. Sgt. Erik Wheeler**
43rd Airlift Wing/Plans



“To stick to my diet.”

— **Lori Reynolds**
440th AW/Financial Management



“To get healthy again.”

— **Shala Lamothe**
43rd AW/Chapel

Tankers: From a Question Mark to Today’s Fight

By **Gen. Arthur J. Lichte**
Air Mobility Command
Commander

SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE, ILL. — Air refueling operations continue to be amazing aerial feats, especially for people who witness the process for the first time. As mobility Airmen, we consider it simply part of what we do but, in reality, it is quite remarkable to have two aircraft meeting less than 50 feet apart at more than 20,000 feet above the ground traveling at speeds close to 400 miles per hour while a tanker replenishes another aircraft with the fuel necessary to continue the mission.

The amazement is even greater when one considers the first major air refueling operation happened 80 years ago when the Question Mark,

a tri-engined Fokker C-2 aircraft with a crew of five, climbed into the southern California sky Jan. 1, 1929. Over the next seven days, the crew kept the aircraft airborne through air refueling from two, three-manned crews operating Douglas C-1 single-engine transports that had been transformed into tankers with the addition of two 150-gallon tanks to off-load fuel.

Combined, those historic tankers made 43 take-offs and landings to deliver 5,660 gallons of fuel, 245 gallons of engine oil, storage batteries, spare parts, tools, food, clothing and mail during the Question Mark’s 150-hour and 40-minute operation.

Today’s tanker fleet continues to play the vital role of sustaining operations. The tanker underwrites our nation’s ability to project

power; the aircraft extends our reach to deliver the clenched fist of US power to our adversaries, or the open hand of assistance to people in need. Without tankers, our combat aircraft cannot reach their targets. Without tankers, our resupply aircraft and humanitarian relief materials cannot always reach their destinations. Without tankers, we cannot move our wounded warriors non-stop from the battlefield to the US for the medical care they need.

As a nation, we’re overdue on building new tankers. We must make delivery of this capability a high priority for our nation. We simply must get on with it. We’re working hard to ensure Air Mobility Command is ready when the next effort begins to choose the industry partner to build our next-generation tanker.

I can understand how the group of Airmen felt at the beginning of the New Year 80 years ago. Their thoughts were likely focused on how to not only successfully demonstrate the air-refueling capability, but also make people aware of its potential significant military contributions

Today, the question isn’t how critical is the tanker to our warfighters and our national security. We know the need for a tanker is critical; it’s a capability our nation simply cannot do without.

Thank you for all you do — every day — for AMC, our Air Force, and our nation. As mobility Airmen, you provide global air mobility — the right effects at the right place at the right time. I look forward to a successful 2009.

Congratulations to January promotees

The following individuals have been selected for promotion effective Jan. 1:

To senior master sergeant

Joint Communications Unit
Todd Petzel

To master sergeant

43rd Force Support Squadron
Shannon Midgette
43rd Logistics Readiness Squadron
Dwayne Harris
Christopher Lamson

43rd Security Forces Squadron

Michael Abram
3rd Aerial Port Squadron
William Carsten
Jessie Chaplin

To technical sergeant

43rd Civil Engineering Squadron
Jennifer Toft
43rd FSS
Rachael Darnes

2nd Airlift Squadron

James Inks
24th Special Tactics Squadron
David Siemiet
JCU

Robert Heller

To staff sergeant

43rd Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron
Robert Hawkins
43rd Security Forces Squadron
Robert Horton

Det 1 11th Intelligence Squadron

Robert Harrison
68th Network Warfare Squadron
Michael Robinson
JCU
Matthew Corby



News

Editor's note: To maintain the newsworthiness and timeliness of the Carolina Flyer, briefs will run for a maximum of four weeks or until the event occurs, whichever comes first. If there's a need to extend the publication of the brief, call the editor at 394-1723.

■ **Telephone number change:** Effective Wednesday, the base will have to dial SEVEN digit phone numbers for any Pope number. If a member dials the 4-XXXX number, a recording will tell that person to dial the 7-digit number.

■ **Branch opening:** Navy Federal Credit Union has opened its newest branch in Fayetteville. The branch will serve over 88,000 DoD personnel and their families assigned to Pope and Fort Bragg. Lobby hours are Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. The branch also has one full-service walk-up ATM. Navy Federal offers a full range of financial services, including mortgage counseling and 24/7 ATM access. For more information, call (703) 206-3828.

■ **Blood Drive:** The next Pope Blood Drive is Thursday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Pope Club Ballroom. Military and civilian donors are authorized up to four hours off to include the donation process. To make an appointment online, visit www.militarylife-force.com. For more information, call the Base Blood Program Officer Capt. Kelly Stuart at 394-1683 or Kelly.stuart-02@pope.af.mil.

■ **ITT:** The National Museum of Crime and Punishment, located in Washington D.C., is giving a complimentary admission to anyone with a DoD identification card. This offer is only valid for eligible service members and DoD civilians on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Sundays now through March 22. This museum includes a crime scene lab and the filming studios for "America's Most Wanted" with host John Walsh. Family members may purchase discounted tickets at the Information, Tickets and Travel office. For more information, call 394-4478.

■ **Phishing scam:** Currently there is a new Citi Bank phishing scam going around labeled "New Citybank GTC

Card." Please do not open the attachment. Remember, Citi Bank will not solicit any information from cardholders regarding the Government Travel Card via email. The email is a phishing scam. This type of scam is a constant threat to personal information security. Please be aware that legitimate companies do not send email requesting sensitive information. The link below is an excellent way to test and increase your ability to identify scams. It takes less than five minutes. Pope personnel are encouraged to give it a try. Go to <http://www.consumerreports.org/cro/electronics-computers/resource-center/cyber-insecurity/phishing-interactive.htm>.

■ **New In-service recruiter:** Tech. Sgt. Tom Leguin is Pope's new in-service recruiter. Individuals who are interested in contacting him regarding reserve assignments, palace chase and palace front opportunities and more should call 394-1099.

■ **Theater closing:** The Pope Theater is closed through Jan. 10 for all events including movies. The ceiling has to be pulled down due to a system installation, and the auditorium will not be usable. If the construction completes before Jan. 10, Pope members will be informed of the new date. For more information, call Steven Rigby at 394-4099. Check the AAFES Web Movie Listings at www.aafes.com for a list of upcoming shows for Pope and Bragg.

■ **FAP:** The Family Advocacy Program provides education and support services to active-duty Airmen and their family members. These classes include marital counseling, parenting classes, anger management, family violence prevention trainings, family maltreatment counseling and classes which cater to individual needs. Other services and referrals are available as needed. There is also the New Parent Support Program which provides home visits and education to parents who are expecting their first born and those with children ages newborn to 3 years.

■ **Self-empowerment classes:** The Family Advocacy Program is offering self-empowerment classes on a rotating schedule every Tuesday from 2 to

3:30 p.m. The rotating classes are effective communication, anger management, sleep disorder management, assertiveness training and stress management. For more information or to register, call 394-4700 or e-mail elizabeth.walcott@pope.af.mil.

■ **Removable flash media restriction:** All network users are directed to suspend the use of removable flash media (thumb drives, camera flash memory cards, memory sticks, etc.) until further notice. Also prohibited is the use of personal devices (PDAs, blackberries, CDs, DVDs, etc) with any DoD information systems. For example, individuals are not allowed to burn a CD at home and use it in a government computer. Government controlled CDs and DVDs are the only media authorized to sneaker-net files between government systems. These items should be scanned prior to use. To meet mission needs, the best way around work issues at this time is to burn the information to CD. If you have any problems with the CD creation software or equipment, call the CSA Center at 394-3272 or Tech. Sgt. Lorraine Coleman at 424-4921.

■ **Airman Leadership School Opening:** The Chief Master Sergeant Louis Williams Airman Leadership School has an opening for a Professional Military Education Instructor in Aug 09. Are you a highly motivated Staff Sgt. with supervisory experience and a CCAF degree or are within 12 semester hours of graduating? If so, this job's for you! ALS Flight Instructors provide the AF's future leaders with the skills necessary to fulfill their supervisory responsibilities within the enlisted force structure and lead our Airmen of tomorrow. This is a 4-year controlled tour which will allow you the stability to reach your professional and personal goals. To apply, please visit the Pope ALS Community of Practice website at <https://afkm.wpafb.af.mil/ASPs/CoP/OpenCoP.asp?Filter=OO-ED-AM-88> and click on, "Want to become an instructor" link for application guidelines and examples. If you have any questions, please contact the ALS Commandant, Master Sgt. Neely Jo Harrington, at 910-394-4370 or DSN 424-4370, or via email at neelyjo.harrington@pope.af.mil.

Community Corner

Phoenix Spouse training

Individuals who are interested in becoming a Phoenix Spouse but haven't done their training are invited to the quarterly Phoenix Spouse Training Jan. 14 from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the A&FRC conference room. Child Care funds are available. Reservations are required. To register, call 394-2538.

Pre-deployment briefing

This briefing occurs every Tuesday and Thursday from 2:30 to 3 p.m. and is required for all members who are preparing for a deployment. Spouses are highly encouraged to attend. Learn who can help assist your family while you are deployed. These briefings are designed to help alleviate some of the difficulties associated with deployments or remote assignments. For more information or to make reservations, call the A&FRC at 394-2538.

TAP

The A&FRC is offering a three-day Transition Assistance workshop Jan. 12 to 14 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. This class is designed to assist those transitioning out of the military with how to apply their skills in the civilian sector. Topics include skills assessment, career planning, job search techniques, resume preparation, interview techniques and VA benefits. This workshop is a joint effort between the DoD, Department of Labor, and the Department of Veterans Affairs. This is a free workshop that is recommended at least 180 days prior to leaving the military. Individuals must attend the mandatory ninety minutes pre-separation briefing prior to registering for this workshop. To register, call the A&FRC at 394-2538.

Hearts Apart Luncheon

If your Air Force spouse is deployed, on a temporary or remote assignment, please come out and join us for lunch at the A&FRC Jan. 9 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. This luncheon is designed to assist AF spouses meet and greet one another, network and just relax and have lunch on the A&FRC. Childcare funds are available. To reserve a seat, call the A&FRC at 394-2538.

Pre-separation briefing

This briefing is required by Public Law for all separating/retiring members 90 days prior to date of separation/retirement. It is held every Monday for retirees and every Wednesday for those separating beginning at 8 a.m. Reservations are required. For more information, call the Airman and Family Readiness Center at 394-2538.

Recognition of the Week

The 43rd Medical Group and the 43rd Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron continue to shine in 2008 with 13 AMC winners. We are very proud of our 12 individual winners and the organization's achievement of Clinic of the Year.

43rd Medical Group Clinic of the Year - 43rd MDG

Aerospace Medicine NCO - Tech. Sgt. Krystal A. Marks

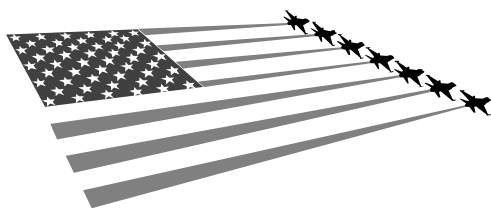
Clinical Excellence CGO - Capt. Vincent S. Syers

FGO Physicians Assistant - Major Alvin F. Barber

Health Care Integrator - Capt. Marquita N. Price

Health Plan Mgmt Officer - 1st. Lt Stephen M. Williams

Medical Readiness SNCO -



Master Sgt. Lloyd T. Parker
Mental Health Airman - A1C Jonathan A. Becker

Mental Health NCO - Tech. Sgt. Michelle L. Wilson

Public Health SNCO - Master Sgt. Mark E. Devericks

Resource Mgmt Civilian - Ms. Patricia A. Sarff

43rd Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron Company Grade Flight Nurse - Capt. Vanessa L. Moses

Nursing Leadership - Lt. Col. Jennifer A. Kimmel

Congratulations these fine Airmen for a job well done, and wish them luck as they compete at the AF-level.

AMC announced the Financial Management and Comptroller Award Winners for 2008, and it is my pleasure to congratulate **Senior Master Sgt. Carolyn Bullock**, AMC's Financial Management SNCO of the Year. This is a prestigious award speaks to the hard work and dedication show by Sergeant Bullock and her fellow Gryphon Warriors in the 43rd Comptroller Squadron.

Wing run paves two-way street

Toy Trot provides holiday fun, community gifts

By Staff Sgt. Jon LaDue
Staff writer

Team Pope's quarterly run took on a new look with a multi-faceted purpose for the holiday season. More than 1,000 Airmen, some dressed up in their favorite Santa or seasonal attire, took to the streets for a one-mile, timed run Dec. 12.

"It's all about enthusiasm, having fun, esprit de corps and just having a good time," said Col. Craig Berlette, 43rd Maintenance Group Commander. Each squadron or group, depending on size, ran together and were timed as a unit. The average time was between 10 to 11 minutes for the one-mile course that began and ended in front of the Lt. Joseph R. Sarnoski Parade Field. It was the first time that "competition" was included in the wing runs.

"With the sense of competition it was a lot faster than prior runs," said Stephen Wall, 43rd Logistics Readiness Squadron. "It was a really good way to motivate the troops."

The 43rd Security Forces Squadron was the fastest "small" unit with a time of 9:27. The 3rd Aerial Port Squadron won the "large" unit race with 9:25.

"I think it's a different way to do the wing run ... a lot of fun and seasonal spirit," said Col. John McDonald, 43rd Airlift Wing Commander. Team Pope spread their seasonal spirit through giving. Leading up to and following the event, Airmen donated and distributed more than 300 gifts to support Pope's Angel Tree program. Some toys were also donated to the Cumberland County Department of Social Services.

To stay with the theme of holiday giving, more than 50 Airmen took the opportunity before and after the run to sign up for Department of Defense Bone Marrow Registration.

"I think the overall camaraderie and morale was boosted today," said Brian Bower, 3rd APS.

The 43rd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron won the overall seasonal award. They carried an eight-man sleigh with fully decorated Christmas tree and all wore the seasonal Santa Hat.

"It's a way to support the angel tree and build esprit de corps. I think next year it will be bigger, better and even crazier," said Colonel Berlette.

A bout ten Airmen from the 43rd Operations Group circled up and stretched following their run. Their thoughts perhaps summarize the unique wing run: "There's a lot of holiday spirit," "it builds camaraderie," "It shows 'one team, one fight.'"

TOY TROT





PHOTO BY TECH. SGT. TODD WIVELL

Deployment value stream mapping

Master Sgt. Jeffrey Cobb, 3rd Aerial Port Squadron, presents an idea to Tech. Sgt. Phillip Godfrey, 43rd Airlift Wing AFSSO21 office and other members of the deployment value stream mapping team Dec. 18th. Pope team members gathered and brainstormed ideas on making the deployment line process faster and more efficient.



PHOTO BY AIRMAN FIRST CLASS MINDY BLOEM

DEFY does Christmas

Children from the Drug Education For Youth program deliver hand-made Christmas cards to the nursing home residents of the Highland House in Fayetteville Dec. 13. DEFY is a program that aims to instill leadership, character and confidence in children ages 9 through 12 in order for them to engage in positive, healthy lifestyles as drug free citizens. For more information about DEFY, call Tracy DeVeault at 394-4700.



PHOTO BY AIRMAN FIRST CLASS MINDY BLOEM

Langley Winds spread holiday cheer

The Langley Winds, part of the Heritage of America Band, perform at the 18th Air Support Operations Group during their visit to Pope Dec. 10. The band visited and performed for several squadrons as a way to spread some holiday cheer throughout Pope.

Visit the **Carolina Flyer** online at <http://public.pope.af.mil>

100% interest?



Did you know Pope AFB is trying to reach the goal of **40 percent** of all solid waste be recycled? Yes and we can make it but we need everyone's help.

It pays to recycle.

For more information, contact your unit/group environmental coordinators or the 43rd CES environmental flight.

